

1 **Amendments to the Specification:**

2 On pages 1-2, lines 20-1, please replace the paragraph with the following amended
3 paragraph:

4 Often the task of filling syringes with a radioactive medications or fluids is are
5 assigned to one person who prepares at one time a large number of syringes for different
6 departments or healthcare facilities in the region. Because large numbers of syringes are
7 prepared, needle sticks are common and the amount of radiation exposure to the pharmacist
8 or technician may exceed safety levels.

9 On pages 2 and 3, lines 13-2, please amend the paragraph with the following amended
10 paragraph:

11 In order to keep the needle of a syringe sterile and to prevent accident needle sticks,
12 the protective needle cap is carefully removed from the needle, referred to as de-capping, to
13 fill the syringe and then carefully placed over the needle, referred to as re-capping, when the
14 syringe is filled. An important skill mastered by the pharmacist and technician is the
15 sequential movement of sequentially moving the hands and fingers to simultaneously hold
16 the syringe, remove the protective cap, securely hold the large vial of radioactive medication
17 or fluid at a suitable angle to withdraw fluid from the vial, insert the tip of the needle into the
18 top seal or gasket on the vial at a suitable angle to prevent “coring”, manipulate the syringe to
19 withdraw the desired amount of radioactive medication or fluid from the vial, withdraw the
20 needle from the vial, and then re-cap the needle. All of these acts must be accomplished
21 repeatedly without accidentally sticking the pharmacist or technician with the needle or
22 excessively exposing the pharmacists- pharmacist's or technician's hands and fingers to
23 radiation. Unfortunately, accidental needle sticks and excessive radiation exposure are

1 common.

2 On pages 6 and 7, lines 23-10, please replace the paragraph with the following
3 amended paragraph:

4 As shown in Figs. 2, 4, 6, and 7, and 4, a separate adaptor 40 attaches to the
5 removable cap 30 and extends ~~inward to~~into the bushing cavity 25. The adaptor 40 includes
6 a cylindrical-shaped, large diameter main section 41 and an integrally formed, cylindrical-
7 shaped, small diameter, non-threaded neck section 43. The main section 41 includes external
8 threads 42 that selectively connect to the internal threads 35 formed on a threaded adapter,
9 receiving cavity 34 formed on the removable cap 30 shown in Fig. 2. During the assembly,
10 the adapter 40 is attached to the removable cap 30 and the neck section 43 is longitudinally
11 aligned and inserted into the void area 47 formed inside a bushing 46. The length of the neck
12 section 43 is sufficient to press against a spring nut 52 later placed ~~located~~ inside the bushing
13 46. Formed centrally on the removable cap 30 and the adapter 40 are first and second small
14 openings 33, 44, respectively, that form a needle cap passageway 50 designed to receive a
15 standard needle cap 92.

16 On page 7, lines 11-21, please replace the paragraph with the following amended
17 paragraph:

18 During assembly, The ~~the~~ bushing 46 is aligned longitudinally inside the bushing
19 cavity 25. As shown more clearly in Fig. 4, formed inside the bushing 46 is an inward
20 extending stop surface 48 upon which the spring nut 52 is disposed. When the removable
21 cap 30 is attached to the body 12, the neck section 43 extends into the cavity 47 and holds ~~to~~
22 ~~hold~~ the spring nut 52 against the stop surface 48. When the needle cap 92 extends ~~is~~
23 ~~inserted~~ into the needle cap passageway 50, the tip of the needle cap 92 extends ~~is inserted~~

1 into the center bore 53 on the spring nut 52. When the syringe 90 is rotated in a clockwise
2 direction, the spring nut 52 engages the tip of the needle cap 92 to de-cap the syringe 90.
3 When the syringe 90 is pulled outward, the needle cap 92 remains connected to the device 10.
4 Later, when the needle is re-inserted into the needle cap passageway 50, pressed inward and
5 rotated in a counter-clockwise direction, the needle cap 92 reconnects to the syringe 90.

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